

Message Text

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 EA-10 FRB-03
INR-10 NEA-10 NSAE-00 OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00
LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00 OMB-01 SS-15 OIC-02 INRE-00
/104 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1241
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 2349

USOECD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EGEN, EINV, ECOSOC, UN, TU
SUBJECT: ECOSOC WORKING GROUP ON ILLICIT PAYMENTS

REF: A) STATE 077170, B) STATE 075523, C) STATE 067686,
D) STATE 066193, E) STATE 054799

1. ON MARCH 17 AND 28, EMBOFF DISCUSSED REFTELS WITH
MINISTER METIN KARACA, DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL
ECONOMIC ORGANIZATION AFFAIRS IN MFA, PROVIDING HIM
WITH COPY OF TEXTS USG PROPOSES FOR ARTICLES I AND IV
OF ILLICIT PAYMENTS AGREEMENT. HE COMMENTED THAT GOT
IS DEEPLY INTERESTED IN THIS MATTER.

2. KARACA INDICATED THAT GOT SUPPORTS ILLICIT PAYMENTS
AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM GOT MISSION
TO UN WILL ATTEND APRIL 3 MEETING OF ECOSOC WORKING GROUP
IN NEW YORK. KARACA POINTED OUT THAT THIS WILL BE FIRST
TIME THAT GOT HAS PARTICIPATED AT ECOSOC LEVEL, BUT GOT DID
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PARTICIPATE IN ORIGINAL DISCUSSIONS OF THIS MATTER BY OECD
GROUP B.

3. MINISTER SHOWED GREAT INTEREST IN FRENCH PROPOSAL
FOR TREATY ON BRIBERY (REFTEL D) AND USG COUNTERPROPOSALS
FOR ARTICLES I AND IV (REFTEL A). HE HAS TRANSMITTED BOTH
PROPOSALS TO MINISTRIES OF TRADE, JUSTICE, AND INDUSTRY

AND TECHNOLOGY, AS WELL AS STATE PLANNING ORGANIZATION.
HE COMMENTED THAT TURKISH ADHERENCE TO ANY TREATY ON ILLICIT
PAYMENTS WOULD REQUIRE EXTENSIVE CHANGES IN TURKISH LAW AND
THAT THESE WOULD TAKE CONSIDERABLE TIME TO ENACT. GOT WILL NOT
BE ABLE TO PROVIDE FURTHER COMMENT UNTIL ECOSOC MEETING OF
APRIL 3.

4. KARACA TURNED DOWN OFFER OF BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS
ON GROUNDS THAT TURKEY WILL BE UNPREPARED TO DISCUSS
SUBSTANCE UNTIL ECOSOC MEETING IN APRIL.

5. KARACA WAS WILLING TO COMMENT ON BOTH ICC RECOMMENDED
ACTIONS DESCRIBED REF A. HE SAID GOT WOULD PROBABLY HAVE NO
OBJECTION TO ICC RECOMMENDATION THAT GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS
INCLUDE PROHIBITION OF UNLAWFUL PAYMENTS. HOWEVER, HE SAID
GOT WOULD HAVE DIFFICULTY ACCEPTING ICC RECOMMENDATION FOR
RECORD-KEEPING ON AGENTS' FEES, EVEN IF ONLY IN CONNECTION WITH
INVESTIGATION OF CRIMINAL OFFENSES. HE POINTED OUT THAT
SUCH RECORD-KEEPING IS NOT USUAL IN TURKEY.

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